THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The procedure for registration of firms is governed by the Medical Store's Manual and the orders issued by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Drugs from unregistered firms are not purchased except that during emergencies like flood, drought, earthquake, cyclone etc. Drugs may be purchased from unregistered firms to meet urgent requirement with the permission of the competent authority. Further, drug samples are picked up at random, coded and sent to two different laboratories for testing. There has been occasional departures from the procedure due to unavoidable circumstances like utilization of budget allocation near the end of the year, compliance with urgent indents etc. Any complaint with regard to the irregularities in procedures in the procurement of drugs through Medical Stores is immediately got enquired into and where necessary, through CBI, to fix responsibility on the officials concerned and departmental proceedings are initiated. If any case of supply of sub-standard drugs comes to notice, immediate action is taken to return the available stock to the supplier firm to get replacements. No specific case/demand seeking compensation from any CGHS beneficiary for sub-standard drugs has been received.

Credit facilities for treatment of CGHS

359. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently decided to introduce credit facilities for treatment of C.G.H.S. employees in private hospitals;

(b) if so, the details thereof and list of private hospitals included for the purpose;

(c) whether the beneficiaries include freedom fighters, pensioners, former M.Ps, besides the in-service officers;

(d) whether under the revised scheme, the beneficiaries will be entitled to go to the private hospitals for treatment directly without being referred by the respective dispensary which is not practicable in emergencies; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of credit facilities available to the various categories of beneficiaries are contained in paras 10 and 11 of the Department of Health's O.M. dated the 7th September, 2001 and the list of hospitals/diagnostic centres recognised under CGHS Delhi are mentioned in Annexures 'A' and 'B' of the said O.M. which are given in the Annexure. [*See* Appendix 195, Annexure No. 2]

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) As per procedure, the CGHS beneficiaries have an option of availing specialized treatment/diagnostic test at CGHS recognized hospitals/ diagnostic centres of his/her choice after the specialist of CGHS/Govemment Hospitals/CMO in-charge of CGHS dispensary recommends the procedure/ tests.

In case of serving employees, the permission is given by the concerned Ministry/Department for referral to private recognized hospitals. Further, in case the beneficiary has taken treatment in emergency, the powers to grant *ex-post facto* permisison and reimbursement has also been delegated to the concerned Ministries/Departments where the Government servant is working.

In the case of pensioners, the permission is given by the CMO in-charge of the CGHS dispensary to which the pensioner is attached for referral to private recognized hospitals. Further, in case the beneficiary has taken treatment in emergency, the *ex-post-facto* approval is given by the Head of the CGHS covered city in which the pensioner resides.

Popularization of Indian Systems of Medicine

360. PROF. M. M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by Government for popularization of Homoeopathic, Ayurvedic and Yoga Systems of medicine in all Government hospitals and dispensaries in the country; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HELATH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) For popularization of